

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 39-44, and add Claims 45 and 46. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claims 1-38 (canceled)

Claim 39 (currently amended): An information providing method for providing information to a user, comprising:

a first storing step, of storing a code, first information corresponding to the code and a keyword associated with the first information to a first database;

a first search step₁ of searching in the first database for ~~[[a]]~~ first information corresponding to an inputted code ~~information from a first data base;~~

an obtaining step₂ of obtaining a first keyword ~~attached to~~ associated with the first information searched for in said first search step ~~and a second keyword associated with a user who inputted the code information via a terminal;~~

a second search step₂ of searching for ~~[[a]]~~ second information ~~including the first and second keywords~~ based on the first keyword obtained in said obtaining step; and

an output step₃ of outputting the first information searched for in said first search step together with the second information searched for in said second search step.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The method according to claim 39, wherein
~~the first and second keywords have weight values, respectively~~ the first
keyword has a weight value, and

~~said second search step searches for the second information in consideration of~~
~~the weight values of the first and second keywords, respectively~~ is executed in consideration of
the weight value of the first keyword.

Claim 41 (currently amended): The method according to claim 39, wherein
said second search step is executed when a printing ~~is indicated~~ output is instructed.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The method according to claim 39, wherein
said second search step ~~searches for the second information~~ is executed in consideration of a
~~terminal~~ information of ~~the~~ a terminal via which the user inputted the code corresponding to the
first information.

Claim 43 (currently amended): An information providing apparatus for
providing information to a user, comprising:

a first storing unit, arranged to store a code, first information corresponding to
the code and a keyword associated with the first information to a first database;

a first search unit, adapted to search in the first database for [[a]] first
information corresponding to an inputted code ~~information from a first data base;~~

an obtaining unit, adapted to obtain a first keyword ~~corresponding to~~ associated with the first information searched for by said first search unit ~~and a second keyword associated with a user who inputted the code information via a terminal;~~

a second search unit, adapted to search for ~~[[a]]~~ second information ~~including the first and second keywords~~ based on the first keyword obtained by said obtaining unit; and

an output unit, adapted to output the first information searched for by said first search unit together with the second information searched for by said second search unit.

Claim 44 (currently amended): A computer program product embodying a program for implementing an information providing method for providing information to a user, comprising:

program code for a first storing step, of storing a code, first information corresponding to the code and a keyword associated with the first information to a first database;

program code for a first search step, of searching in the first database for a first information corresponding to an inputted code ~~information from a first data base;~~

program code for an obtaining step, of obtaining a first keyword ~~corresponding to~~ associated with the first information searched for in the first search step ~~and a second keyword associated with a user who inputted the code information via a terminal;~~

program code for a second search step, of searching for ~~[[a]]~~ second information ~~including the first and second keywords~~ based on the first keyword obtained in the obtain step; and

program code for an output step, of outputting the first information searched for in the first search step together with the second information searched for in the second search step.

Claim 45 (new): The method according to claim 39, further comprising:
a second storing step, of storing a second keyword associated with a user of the first information in a second database,
wherein said obtaining step further includes obtaining the second keyword, and
said second search step is executed in consideration of the first keyword and the second keyword obtained in said obtaining step.

Claim 46 (new): The method according to claim 39, further comprising:
a second storing step, of storing a second keyword associated with a user of the first information with a weight value in the second database,
wherein the keyword and the second keyword have weight value, and
said second search step is executed in consideration of the weight value of the keyword and the second keyword.